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tween this form and *S. graminoides* may occur, especially as starved forms of the latter would naturally tend to assume the general character of *S. angustifolium*.

An Allegheny Mountain form of *S. angustifolium* is very slender and delicate, with highly-colored spathe and linear-elongated outer bract; the edges of the stem, in certain specimens at least, is perfectly smooth. This form also turns blackish in drying.

Plants from the prairie region, from Minnesota to Kansas, do not blacken in drying, and commonly have the edges of the stem and leaves perfectly smooth. The bracts of the spathe are often minutely papillose or even puberulent, a character of which I have found no suggestion in eastern specimens. Both East and West, however, furnish ambiguous plants which seem to contradict the indications of the general run of specimens from each region.

Among the large number of specimens examined, three only have geminate spathes. These specimens are all from the same general region, viz., Kentucky, Missouri and Illinois. Collectors' notes on two of them record "flowers white;" another is labeled further by Dr. Englemann "*S. albidum*, Raf., Dry Hills, St. Louis, earlier than the blue form, May, 1863."

In Rafinesque's description of his *S. albidum** (Atlantic Journ. 17, 1832) we read "spathe unequally 4 valved," the habitat of the plant is given as "in West Kentucky." These developments certainly point strongly to the validity of *S. albidum* Raf., and suggest a promising subject of field study to anyone who may be in a position to prosecute it.

Three Editions of Stansbury's Report.

BY FREDERICK V. COVILLE.

The report of Captain Stansbury's exploration of the Great Salt Lake, was published as Senate Executive Document No. 3, Special Session (32d Congress), March, 1851, with the following title:

*It may be stated here as a matter of record that, eight years prior to his description of *S. albidum*, Rafinesque wrote the plant down without description as *S. album* Raf. So it will be found printed in the "First Catalogues and Circulars of the Botanical Garden of Transylvania University at Lexington, in Kentucky, for the year 1824," p. 16. This reference is wanting in Index Kewensis.

STANSBURY, HOWARD.

Exploration and Survey of the Valley of the Great Salt Lake of Utah, including a reconnoissance of a new route through the Rocky Mountains. Philadelphia; Lippincott, Grambo & Co. 1852.

Appendix D of this Report, by John Torrey, is entitled: "Botany. Catalogue of Plants collected by the Expedition." It occupies pages 383 to 397 and is accompanied by nine lithograph plates.

A second edition of the report, with the same title, was printed by order of the House of Representatives, the publisher being Robert Armstrong, of the City of Washington, in the year 1853, though all the copies of it I have seen bear at the top of the title page the same document legend as the first edition. In the second edition the type was entirely reset, but no new matter was added in the body of the report and the pagination is maintained almost precisely throughout. In the botanical appendix, however, which occupies the same pages as in the first edition and is accompanied by the same plates, there are a few important changes in the text. The principal one of these occurs on page 389, on which in the first edition the new genus *Monothrix* is described, and on the following page the species *Monothrix Stansburiana*. In the second edition the genus *Monothrix* is discarded, the name given for this plant being *Laphamia Stansburii* (Gray, Plant, Wright. 101. 1852), with the following footnote:

"The *Laphamia* of Dr. Gray, although published subsequently to *Monothrix*, must take precedence of that genus, as it now embraces one species with a pappus of many bristles, another with a bisetose pappus, and two other species that are quite destitute of a pappus; so that the latter name is no longer appropriate."

From this footnote it would appear that the generic name *Monothrix* has precedence over *Laphamia*, but an examination of the date of publication of the first part of Dr. Gray's *Plantae Wrightianae* and of the first edition of the Stansbury report shows that the former was issued in March, 1852, while the manuscript of the latter was not submitted to Congress until April 19, of the same year. It is evident, therefore, that by the word "published" in his footnote, Dr. Torrey could not have meant what we now mean technically by that word. In both editions of the Stans-

bury report the plate of this plant, No. 7, bears the name "Monothrix stansburiana Torr." It is evident that Monothrix does not have priority over Laphamia.

Another change in the second edition is the reduction on page 389 of *Linosyris serrulata*, published on the same page of the first edition, to varietal rank under *Linosyris viscidiflora* without any citation of the first edition. On page 395 there is also a change in the remarks under *Abronia mellifera* Doug., the wording in the first edition being as follows: *A. micranthus*, Torr. in Fremont's first Report, p. 96, and in Emory's Report, p. 149, seems to be a particular state of the plant *Abronia mellifera*, in which it bears very small but perfect flowers. In those works I noticed the peculiarity of the embryo; the inner cotyledon being constantly abortive." The second edition reads, "In Fremont's first report, p. 96, and in Emory's Report, p. 149, I noticed a peculiarity of the embryo; the inner cotyledon being constantly abortive."

Beyond these differences no change of importance occur in the botanical appendices of the two editions, the matter being almost identical, page for page and line for line, with the exception of the correction of a few typographical errors.

Stansbury's report appears also in a third form which hardly merits the name of an "edition." It is the same precisely as the first edition, being printed from the same stereotype plates, except the title page, which is reset and dated 1855. In the absence of any reference to an earlier edition the date is wholly misleading.

Studies in the Leguminosae.—I.

BY ANNA MURRAY VAIL.

NOTES ON MEIBOMIA.

MEIBOMIA ARENICOLA.

Hechysarum lineatum Michx. Fl. Bor. Am. 2: 72. 1803. Not of Linn. Syst. Ed. 10, 1170. 1759.

Desmodium lineatum DC. Prodr. 2: 330. 1825.

Meibomia lineata Kuntze, Rev. Gen. Pl. 196. 1891.